



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Cafcass Cymru Commissioned Service as of 08/07/2020

Child Contact Arrangements

Due to current government restrictions around Covid-19 all delivery of direct contact for supervised and supported contact centres has ceased.

Cafcass Cymru have worked with supervised centres, in consultation with the National Association of Child Contact Centres (NACCC), to provide remote supervised contact via video platform sites such as SKYPE.

From 1st June remote contact has been available and can either be court ordered at First Hearing Dispute Resolution Appointment (FHDR) after consultation with the Cafcass Cymru practitioner on court duty or referred by a practitioner currently working with a family. As not all supervised contact is suitable for remote sessions and until further notice, contact referrals will only be accepted by Cafcass Cymru if they are assessed as safe and considered suitable for supervised remote contact by a Cafcass Cymru practitioner. The practitioner must have discussions with both parties and the court (where appropriate) to ensure everyone understands the limitations to the service currently being offered, identify any potential safeguarding issues and give clear feedback to all if they do not think remote contact is safe or appropriate.

Cafcass Cymru's contact providers are currently undertaking individual risk assessments in respect of the service they provide to make considered decisions about when it would be safe for them to resume face to face contact services. Early indications suggest limited service in some areas may be available during August but this is not yet confirmed. We will keep this under review and provide updates when services are available.

Working Together for Children – WT4C

Due to current government restrictions all face to face delivery of the Working Together for Children (WT4C) programme has ceased.

All providers are now successfully offering a remote service via video platform sites with small groups of participants or one to one sessions. Cafcass Cymru are processing a backlog of referrals but it is anticipated we will be able to take new WT4C referrals from 1 August 2020.

DNA – Testing

Due to current government restrictions the facilitation of DNA testing by Cafcass officers has been suspended. Cafcass Cymru will accept referrals from the court and our provider DNA Legal will collect DNA samples from families on behalf of the court.

